

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

09/671,283

Confirmation No. 6590

Applicant

John A. Giordano et al.

Filed

27 September 2000

TC/Art Unit

1617

Examiner

S. Wang

Docket No.

48508-00004

Customer No.

23767

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the issues raised by the Examiner in the Office Action mailed 6 May 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejections and reexamination of the present application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.